

The Honorable Michael K. Powell  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a customer of DIRECTV, I am writing to urge you to support the pending merger of EchoStar and HUGHES, the parent company of DIRECTV. I believe the merger will increase video and broadband choices for consumers like me.

The combined company will be a much stronger competitor to cable operators by being able to offer me local TV channels via satellite in my market area, which I currently do not receive.

Broadband access to the Internet is not available to me at this time. If the merger is approved, the new company will be able to provide me with affordable high-speed Internet access via satellite along with the other 40 million American households who do not have affordable high-speed Internet access now.

I was okay not having local channels until today, election day, I am headed out to vote and I don't know any of the issues our candidates have to offer. I have depended on the local stations to deliver their view points on our state government before I became a DIRECTV customer. As it stands right now I can tell you who I would vote for in New York but what good does that do the state of Wisconsin. My family and I welcome the merge between DISHNETWORK and DIRECTV, it will make us feel like part of our state again.

I appreciate your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Johnna Baldwin  
101 E. Carter St.  
Wonevot, WI 53968